

10/009690

JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 13 DEC 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Inge JOHANSEN et al.

Serial No. NEW

Filed December 13, 2001

ARRANGEMENT FOR EQUIPMENT RELATED
TO HORIZONTAL, CONTINUOUS CASTING
OF METAL

[Corresponding to PCT/NO00/00222
Filed June 26, 2000]

Attn: BOX PCT

Docket No. 2001_1827A

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

#4/a
5/14/02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the above-identified application, kindly amend
the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claims 3 and 4 as follows:

3.(Amended) Equipment according to claim 1, characterised in that the mould
housing (8) is made of steel.

4.(Amended) Equipment according to claim 1, characterised in that the mould
housing includes two parts (8,9) with an intermediate cooling channel (14) where a
thermally insulating annular plate (28) is arranged against the first part (8) which surrounds
the permeable material (12, 12) in the cavity (17) in order to reduce the thermal transfer
to the cavity.